# David Laban MEng (Hons) MA (Cantab)

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I am an enthusiastic VoIP Engineer, specialising in mobile/embedded Linux applications, with strong observational skills both in people and processes. I have a passion for signal processing and very strong skills and experience developing concurrent programs in C for Desktop and Mobile platforms.

## Highlights/Timeline:

- Sept 2011 – August 2012: Gap Year.
    - Software Development and professional development:
        - Worked on Audio/Video Applications for Windows, OSX, Linux and Android.
        - Contributed to Open Source Software projects like Tomahawk.
    - Outward Bound:
        - Quickly identified the resources of the group.
        - Helped others to grow and develop.
    - Lindy Hop, Balboa, Authentic Jazz dance training and teaching:
        - Applied my passion for problem solving to dance teaching.

- Sept 2009 – Sept 2011: Software Enginner, Collabora Ltd.
    - Received formal and informal GStreamer training from gst core developers.
    - Taught myself about h.264 for debugging interoperability issues.
    - Automated validation testing for Gstreamer on ARM (for Linaro).
    - Adapted to wide range of tools (C, Python, SQL, C++, lua, git, bzr, autotools etc.)
    - Developed Next Generation VoIP APIs for Telepathy (Maemo; Gnome).
    - Coordinated with Open Source developers and clients on 5 (of 7) continents.
    - Improved coordination within Cambridge with weekly stand-up meetings.
    - Moved to Montreal for 3 months, to work more closely with our VoIP experts, while keeping my existing responsibilities.

- 2005-2009: Engineering Undergraduate, Peterhouse College, Cambridge University:
    - 4th year: MEng (Hons) Information (Primarily Signal Processing and Communications)
    - 3rd year BA (Hons) Engineering: 2:2
    - 1st and 2nd years (General Engineering): 2:1
    - 2007: Second Year Computing Prize (Decryption):
    - 2006: First Year Structural Design Prize (Bridge Design and Manufacture)

- 2003-2005: Bancroft's School:
    - Maths: **A**, Further Maths: **A**, Physics: **A**, Electronics: **A,** AEA Physics: **Merit**.
- 1995-2003: Highams Park School:
    - 11 GCSEs including 6 at **A\***

## Ongoing Engagements/Interests:

- 2006-present: Lindy Hop (Swing Dancing):
  - Taught small and large classes (from 1 to 50 students at a time).
  - Performed to large crowds at events like St John's May Ball and Strawberry Fair.
  - DJed at dance events: Gained a practical understanding of sound and rhythm.

- 2006-present: Contributions to existing Open Source Projects:
  - Improved Tomahawk integration with Spotify and other online services.
  - Improved the help system for the official Python Interpreter.
  - Bug-fixes and feature enhancements in numerous other projects.
- 2006-present: Programming for Personal use:
  - Retroscope: GStreamer-based Dance Training/Video Feedback app.
  - CupsAndString: command-line instant messaging client in < 256 lines of python.
  - Customised NetworkManager for automated setup + secure tunnelling.
  - Created multiple Amarok scripts (Python/SQL).

- 2005-present: Online user support (#kde, #python, #telepathy, #tomahawk etc.):
  - Helped users to solve their problems; found/fixed many bugs.
  - Learnt a lot about netiquette and pitfalls in UI/API design.
- 2003-present: Hardware Modification (Some example projects):
  - Member of The London Hackspace. Helped with many projets.
  - Fixed miscellaneous broken computer hardware (keyboards, PDAs etc.)
  - Created hardware audio mixer (for iPod/PC to share speakers).
- 2003-present: Website Design and Maintainence:
  - Produced Initial Annor Ltd Company website, and migrated to simpler Google hosting.
  - Bancroft's School Webteam (HTML, Javascript; Dreamweaver)

## Travel:

- 2011: Three Months living and working in Montreal.
- 2006-2011: Attended; represented my company at KDE's Akademy and Desktop Summit.
- 2009-present: Various Dance Workshops and events around Europe and North America.
- 2007-present: Hosted foreign dancers at, and attended various UK Lindy Exchanges.
- 2005: Albany, New York + Solo Camping in Plattsburgh, New York.
- 2004: Colorado + Utah: Engineering Summer program at University of Colorado, Boulder.

## References:

- Sjoerd Simons (Head of R&D, Collabora)
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David Laban                                                                                          2012-01-10